

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system comprising

A cup having

A bottom wall;

A front, first and second sidewalls,

A sealing rim on said front wall and extending at least partially along said first and second sidewalls for maintaining a watertight seal between said sealing rim and a user's face when said cup is rotated from a generally upright position to a generally horizontal position while the user's head is held at least generally upright or rearwards to allow pouring by gravity flow during rotation of the cup with regard to the user's face of a liquid held in the cup into the user's nasal and sinus cavities.

2. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 wherein said sidewalls have no openings therein.

3. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 wherein the width of said first and second sidewalls varies from maximum width where said sidewalls join said front wall to a minimum width where said sidewalls join one another.

4. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 wherein said sealing rim extends curving outwardly and downwardly away from said cup so as to maintain a sealing surface between said sealing rim and a user's face when said cup is rotated from a generally upright position to a generally horizontal position to allow pouring of a liquid held in the cup into the user's nasal and sinus cavities.

5. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 wherein said sealing rim further includes an area of the sealing rim adapted to mate with a user's facial structure to prevent further rotation of said cup on the user's face beyond a selected angle so as to maintain a sealing surface between said sealing rim and a user's face when said cup is rotated from a generally upright position to a generally horizontal position to allow pouring of a liquid held in the cup into the user's nasal and sinus cavities.

6. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 wherein the width of said first and second sidewalls varies so that said sealing rim extending at least partially along said first and second sidewalls can maintain a watertight seal between said sealing rim and a user's face when said cup is rotated from a generally upright position to a generally horizontal position to allow pouring of a liquid held in the cup into the user's nasal and sinus cavities.

7. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 wherein the width of said sidewalls varies in a manner that creates a horizontal side wall as the cup is rotated to the generally horizontal position, maintaining a cavity for the liquid as the original two sidewalls no longer create a cavity for holding the liquid.

8. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 further comprising a first and second protuberance on the interior side of said first and second sidewalls respectively, adapted to allow a user to select one of said protuberances to press against and close off a user's nostril allowing liquid held in the cup to flow through only the unclosed nostril into the nasal cavities.

9. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 further comprising means attached to said cup for vibrating a fluid held in the interior of said cup.

10. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 9 wherein said vibrating means is integrally formed on said bottom wall of the cup.

11. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 9 wherein said vibrating means is releasably attached to said bottom wall of the cup.

12. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 9 wherein said vibrating means is releasably attached to said bottom wall of the cup comprises an electric vibrating motor assembly.

13. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 further comprising means for heating a liquid held in said cup.

14. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 13 wherein said heating means further comprises:

an electric heating element adapted for insertion into the interior of said cup and submersion in the liquid held in said cup.

15. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 1 further comprising:

a splash barrier, partially covering the mouth of said cup, for protecting a user's facial area from spillage of liquid held contained in said cup when said cup is rotated too rapidly.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system comprising:

a cup, generally triangular in cross-section for ease in grasping by a user's hand, having:

a bottom wall;

a front, first and second sidewalls, said sidewalls having no openings therein and the width of said first and second sidewalls varying from a maximum width where said sidewalls join said front wall to a minimum width where said sidewalls join one another, the varying width of said sidewalls creating a horizontal sidewall as the cup is rotated from a generally upright position to a generally horizontal position for maintaining a cavity to contain the liquid held in the cup as the original first and second sidewalls no longer create a cavity for holding the liquid;

a sealing rim on said front wall and extending at least partially along said first and second sidewalls, said sealing rim including an area adapted to mate with a user's facial structure to prevent further rotation of said cup on the user's face beyond a selected angle so as to maintain a sealing surface between said sealing rim and a user's face when said cup is rotated from a generally upright position to a generally horizontal position while the user's head is held at least generally upright or rearwards to allow pouring by gravity flow during rotation of the cup with regard to the user's face of a liquid held in the cup into the user's nasal and sinus cavities;

a first and second protuberance on the interior side of said first and second sidewalls respectively, adapted to allow a user to select one of said protuberances to press against and close off a user's nostril allowing liquid held in the cup to flow through only the unclosed nostril into the nasal cavities.

17. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 16 further comprising means attached to said cup for vibrating a fluid held in the interior of said cup.

18. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 17 wherein said vibrating means is integrally formed on said bottom wall of the cup.

19. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 17 wherein said vibrating means is releasably attached to said bottom wall of the cup.

20. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 17 wherein said vibrating means is releasably attached to said bottom wall of the cup comprises an electric vibrating motor assembly.

21. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 16 further comprising means for vibrating a fluid held in the interior of said cup.

22. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 21 wherein said vibrating means is a self-contained electric vibrating motor assembly designed for insertion into the interior of said cup and at least partial submersion into the liquid contained therein.

23. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 16 further comprising means for heating a liquid held in said cup.

24. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 20 wherein said heating means further comprises:

an electric heating element adapted for insertion into the interior of said cup and submersion in the liquid held in said cup.

25. (ORIGINAL) A nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleansing system as in claim 20 further comprising:

a splash barrier, partially covering the mouth of said cup, for protecting a user's facial area from spillage of liquid held contained in said cup when said cup is rotated too rapidly.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleaning of a user's nasal and sinus cavities with a liquid comprising a saline solution, a special cleansing formula, or a medicinal fluid, comprising the steps of:

placing the liquid in a cup having a sealing rim for maintaining a watertight seal against a user's face when the cup is rotated from a generally upright position to a generally horizontal position while the user's head is held at least generally upright or rearwards;

inserting the user's nose into the solution in the cup while holding the cup in a generally vertical orientation;

rotating the cup from a generally vertical orientation to a generally horizontal orientation while maintaining a watertight seal between the sealing rim of the cup and the user's face during rotation of the cup with regard to the user's face; and,

inhaling the solution from the cup into the user's nasal and sinus cavities.

27. (ORIGINAL) A method for nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleaning of a user's nasal and sinus cavities with a liquid, as in claim 26, further including the step of:

holding the liquid in the user's nasal and sinus cavities for a desired period of time.

28. (ORIGINAL) A method for nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleaning of a user's nasal and sinus cavities with a liquid, as in claim 26, further including the step of:

expelling the liquid held in the user's nasal and sinus cavities by the user exhaling through his nose.

29. (ORIGINAL) A method for nasal-nasopharyngeal irrigating and cleaning of a user's nasal and sinus cavities with a liquid, as in claim 26, further including the step of:

draining the liquid held in the user's nasal and sinus cavities by tilting the user's head to allow gravity to cause the liquid to drain out.